The coppy of a Letter written by the Lord of Themines, Seneſchall of Quercy: to the Lord Marſhall Matignon, the Kinges Lieuetenant Generall in Guyenne, concerning the battaile at Villemure, and the victory atchieued againſt the ennemies of his Maieſty.

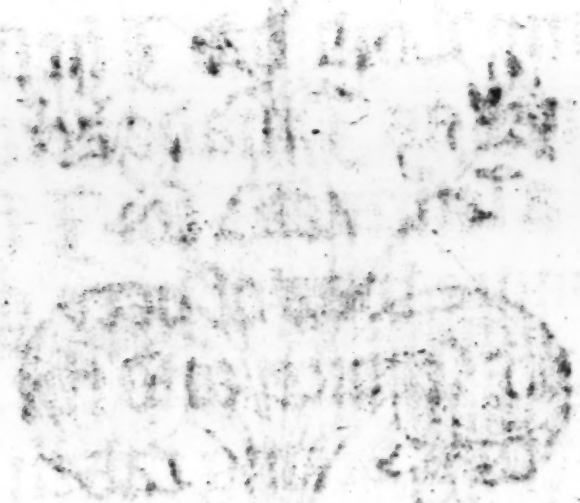
Alſo, A Decree of the Court of Parliament ſittinge at Chaalons, againſt a reſcript in forme of a Bull, directed to the Cardinall of Plaiſance, and publiſhed by the Rebels in Paris, in October laſt.

Faithfully done into Engliſh by E.A.

Hereunto are adioyned, the reportes of certaine letters, of Newes out of France, and Sauoya.

46 47

LONDON
Imprinted by Iohn Wolfe.
1593.



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1593.

THE COPIE OF A LETTER WRITTEN by the Lord of *Themines* Seneſchall of *Quercy*, to the Lord Marſhall *Matignon*, the kinges Lieutenant generall in *Guyenne* concerning the battaille at *Villemure*, & the victory atchiued againſt the ennemies of his Maieſtie.

MY Lord, I accompt it my duety to aduertize you, of ſuch occurrences as haue paſſed before Villemure, together with ỹ occaſion that I entered therinto. Which was this: Beeing arriued in the towne of Montauban, I founde the affaires in ſo bad eſtate, and the ſaid place of Villemure without ſpeedy ſuccour in ſuch daunger of loſſe: beſides all not ſeeing wherewith to take the fielde, I determined to goe thether with a hundred of my companions, and three hundred footemen. Hereof my Lord did I firſt giue you notice, as alſo of ſuch meanes as I made accompt off to come to relieue me with a ſentinell: for I foreſaw that the los of the ſaid Villemure was of very great importance concerning the kinges ſeruice, and the good of your gouernement: which (that beeing taken) all the townes here about with in Quercy would haue forſaken. This neceſſity would not giue me leyſure to attend your permiſſion, accordinge to my duety, and therefore it may pleaſe you my Lord to accept this reaſon for my excuſe.

I will not ſtand to diſcourſe vnto you, the combats and ſallyes perfourmed in one moneth, the time that I was beſieged, as alſo ỹ in our ſallies, we got great aduantage of the ennemies, beſides the taking of their enſignes, and forcinge of their trenches: for ſeeing them-

selues thus molested, they were forced to make fortes at all the corners of their campe. In the meane time the Lord of Montmorency, sent the Lord of Leques, of Chambault and of Montoison to succour the said Villemure, who after eight daies purposed to approach towarde the ennemy by a forte that they made shewe to assaile: but the place was by the ennemies army so sucoured, that without farther endaungeringe of anye thing, they returned to attend some of my frendes: among others the Lord of Messillac, whome I had imployed, and the Lord Giscart, also the Lord of la Land, whome I had left to gather the forces of the Countrey. Upon their arriual, they approched the ennemies vpon Monday the nineteenth of this moneth, and them assailed at the very trenches, which, not finding all their horsemen in guarde, were forced. This aduauntage lost, the ennemy grewe into suche feare as not yeelding such battaile as I expected namely of their straungers, they were ouerthrowne, and the most part drowned, namely the Lord of Ioyeuse, their artillery was taken, whereof were fiue Cannons or Culueringes, There were also found those of the towne of Montauban, that were taken from the regimente of the Lorde of Espernon, where I was presente with twelue horse, and that in good time, for the sauinge of a Cannon, which they had abandoned. All the saide ennemies Enlignes were taken, also all the leaders of their footemen, either dead or taken. To bee briefe my Lord: It was a very great ouerthrow. There be dead betweene twelue and fifteene hundred men, and about a hundred prisoners. It may please you my Lorde in your packet to his Maiestie so farre to honour me as to geue

him

him to vnderſtand of my duety perfourmed in effecting this ſeruice, as alſo if you pleaſe to honor me, as to giue him to vnderſtand of my duety perfourmed in effecting this ſeruice, as alſo if you pleaſe to honor me with your commanndements. From Villemure the twentieth of October 1592.

A Decree of the Court of Parliament, ſitting at Chaalons, againſt a reſcript in forme of a Bull, directed to the Cardinall of Plaiſance, and publiſhed by the Rebels of Paris in the moneth of October laſt paſt.

INAS much as the Kinges Atturney generall, hath declared vnto this court that the Rebels and ſeditious perſons to the end to execute ſuch wicked and wretched purpoſes, as they haue long ſince forecaſt, for the vſurpinge of this crowne, againſt the true and lawfull ſucceſſors of the ſame: not content with replenifhing the Realme with murther, maſſacre, robbery, and ſpoyle, alſo with bringing in the Spanyard, a moſt cruell and moſt pernitious enemy to the Realme of Fraunce, but alſo perceiuing that the inhabitantes of the rebellious townes, began as it were out of a long lethargy and ſwounde, to recouer, and to enter the path of Obedience, whereto, by God and nature they are bound to their lawfull King: to the ende vtterly to quenche and ſtop vp all prickes and pointes of charity towarde their countrey, which in them began to ſhoote and waken, and to reduce the Realme into greater trouble and diuiſion then before, doe frame themſelues to proceede to the election

of an ew king, for a pretence whereof, they haue procured the publiſhing of a certaine writing in forme of a Bull, importing power and commaundement to the Cardinall of Playſance to aſſiſt and auctorize the ſaid pretended election. Wherein the ſaid rebells and ſeditious perſons doe openly reueale that which hitherto they had concealed, namely that they haue taken the pretence of religion to couer their wretched and damnable enterpize & conſpiracy: A matter which euery good Frenchman and Catholicke ought to deteſt and abhorre, as being directly repugnant to Gods word, al holy decrees, all counſels and the liberty of the french Church, which alſo openeth a gate to the vtter ruine & ſubuertion of al policyes & humaine ſocietyes inſtituted by God, namely of this ſo famous and flouriſhinge Monarchy, the foundamentall lawe whereof doth principally conſiſt in the order of lawfull ſucceſſion of kinges, for the preſeruation whereof euery good man and trew frenchman is to hazard his life rather then to ſuffer it to bee altered or violated, beeing the henge wherevpon the certainty and peace of the eſtate doth torne. Deſiring prouiſion for the ſame.

The Court admitting the requeſt made by the kings Atturney generall, hath receiued and doth receiue it, appealing as of abuſe from the graunt and purchaſe of the ſaide Bull, and the power thereof, therein contayninge the publication and execution of the ſame, and whatſoeuer els hath enſued, it hath holden and doth hold to be well relieued: doth decree that Philip of the title of Saint Onuphrius, Cardinall of Playſance, ſhall therein be ſommoned, in defence of the ſaid appeale, and whatſoeuer the exploites, performed in this towne of

Chaalons

Chaalons, by publike cry, shall be of force, and in effecte and valour, as if they were performed vppon his owne person, or habitation. In the meane time the saide Court exhorteth all Prelates, Bishops, Princes, Lords Gentlemen, Officers and the kinges subiectes, of what estate, condition or callinge so euer, not to suffer themselues, to be led or wonne with the poyson or charmes of such rebels, and seditious persons, but to perisite in the duety of good and naturall French-men, and still to retaine that affection and charity, which they owe to their king and countrey, neither to cleaue to the subtelties of those who vnder the coulor of religion, doe seeke to inuade the estate, and to bringe in the barbarous Spanyardes, and other vsurpers. It doth also expresly inhibite and forbidde all persons, not to retaine or keepe the said Bull, neither to publish the same, or therwith to helpe themselues: neither to fauour the rebells, or to transporte themselues into any such townes or places as may be appointed for the said pretended election. Vnder paine to the noble men to be disgraded of all nobilite and to be denounced Infamous and Peasants, they and their posterity: to the clergy to bee depryued from the possession of their benefices, and punished together with other the offenders, as guilty of treason and desturbers of publike peace, forsakers and traitors to their Country: without hope for euer hereafter to obtayne pardon, remission or abolition. It also inhibiteth all townes not to receiue the said rebells or seditious persons to make their said assembly, neither to lodge, foster or harbour them. The said court also decreeth that the place where such deliberation shall haue beene taken, together with the towne wher

the

the ſaid aſſembly ſhall bee made, ſhall bee razed topſy turuy, without hope of euer beeing reedified, in perpetuall remembraunce to the poſterity of their treaſon, trechery and falſhood: It alſo enioyneth all men at the allarum bell to ouer-runne all ſuch as ſhall tranſport themſelues into any ſuch towne, to aſſiſt the ſaid aſſembly. Alſo there ſhalbe Commiſſion deliuered to the ſaide Atturney generall, to enforme againſt thoſe that haue bene the authors and promooters of ſuch conſpiracies and monopoles, practiſed againſt the ſtate, and all ſuch as haue ayded or fauored them. And this decree, to bee publiſhed with the ſounde of the trompet, and common cry, in all the quarters of this towne, and ſent to all the ſeas of this reſort, there to be read, publiſhed and enrolled with all diligence, by the ſubſtitutes of the ſaid Atturney generall. whereof they ſhall certifye the Courte, within the ſpace of one moneth, vnder paine of ſuſpenſion from their Offices.

Done in the Parliament the 18. of Nouember 1592. at Chaalons.

Saigcot.

By Letters of good credite, receiued this moneth of Ianuary 1593.

THe Duke of Florence hath ſente ſuccour by Sea, to the Frenche kinge, the which ſuccour hath beene incountered by king Philip his Gallies, but the Florentines haue giuen them the ouerthrowe, and are arriued ſafe to Diepe.

They

They of the League, haue created Lieuetenant generall for king Philip in the kingdome of France, a Spaniſh Cardinall which is in Paris.

The Parliamentes of France which doe hold for the king, haue a ſtatute, by the which it is ordained, that all them which doe, and ſhall adhere to the League, are declared conuinced of high treaſon, and that therfore, they and their goods are confiſcated to the king, and if any Common-wealth, doe adhere therevnto, it is ordayned that the ſame ſhall leeſe all their priuiledges and libertyes, and that (the walls of the ſame being beaten downe) it ſhall be left like a baren villadge.

They of Paris are in greate extreamity, ſo that the Crocheters, and other of the common ſort, were riſen againſt the better ſort: but they haue appeaſed them, by encreaſing their ordinary: and ſo they keepe them nowe quiet.

The Duke of Sauoy beeing in Piemount, to reſiſt the Lord des Diguieres, ſent to the Duke de Terra noua, gouernor of Myllan for helpe: who ſent him his owne ſon with many of the nobility of Myllan, very ſtrongly prouided, and they being ioyned with the Duke, did approch the Lord des Diguiers, who paſſing little for them all did take in their ſight a ſtronge caſtell, the which he had beſlieged neere Thurin, and after that, he fought with them a very ſore battaile in the which, the ſonne to the gouernor of Myllan was ſlaine. The Duke of Sauoy put to flight, and his whole army defeated, many of the Dukes men were ſlaine, and many were taken priſoners.

The Duke of Lorraine hath fought lately againſt the Duke of Bullion, there were many of the Duke

of Lorraine his men slaine, and many were taken pri-soners, amongest which were found about foure hun-dred Gentlemen.

The king doth assemble his armie about Chartres, to resist the ennemie stranger, which is entered with-in France vnder the conducte of the Earle Charles Mansfield.

By other Letters that came on the 20. of this moneth of Ianuary 1593.

THe Duke of Espernon, hath taken Anthebe, and all the country about the same, so that all Prouence is now brought vnder the Kinges obedience.

He hath sent a hundred horsemen to the Lord des Diguieres in Prouence.

The Lord des Diguieres hath brought vnder the Kinges obedience, all the valley of Angroigne, and the countrey about it, and hath forced the Papistes of that countrey to contract with him, by which contract, they are bound to pay euery moneth, thirty thousand french crownes, for the mainetenance of his army.

The Duke of Florence, and the Venetians, haue le-uied fiue thousand Switzers, to ayde the French King, against his ennemies.

The Marshall d' Aumont, hath taken the towne of Dynan in Britany.

COPIE DE LA LETTRE DE MONSIEUR de Themines Seneſchal de Quercy, enuoyée à Monſeigneur le Mareſchal de Matignon, Lieutenant general du Roy en Guyen, concernant la bataille de Villemur, & victoire obtenue contre les ennemys de ſa Maieſté.

MONSEIGNEVR, ie tiens de mon debuoir, de vous aduertir de ce, qui s'eſt paſſé deuant Villemur, & de l'occaſion, qui me fit ietter dedans: C'eſt, qu'eſtant arriué en la ville de Montauban, i'y trouuay les affaires en ſi mauuais eſtat, & ledict lieu de Villemur en tel dãger de ſe predre, s'il n'eſtoit promptement ſecouru, & ne voyant dequoy me mettre à la campaigne, ie me deliberay de m'y en aller auec cẽt de mes compaignons, & trois cens hommes de pied. I'en donnay la nouuelle à vous premierement, Monſieur, & apres à tout ce que i'eſtimois auoir de moyens, pour me venir releuer de ſentinelle: car ie preuoyois que la perte dudict Villemur eſtoit tres-importante au ſeruice du Roy, & au bien de voſtre gouuernement: car celle-là prinſe, toutes les villes de ces enuirons, qui ſont dans le Quercy euſſent quitté. Ceſte neceſſité ne m'euſt peu donner loiſir d'attendre voſtre permiſſion: car c'eſtoit ce que ie deuois. Vous receurez en ce ſubject, s'il vous plaiſt, Monſieur, mon excuſe. Ie ne m'arreſteray à vous diſcourir des combats & ſorties, qui ſe ſont faictes durant vn mois, que i'ay eſté aſſiegé, & que en noz ſorties nous auons gaigné grand aduantage ſur l'ennemy, prins des drappeaux, forcé des trenchées, tellement que ſe voyant trauaillez de ceſte ſorte, ils auroyent eſté contraints faire des forts à tous les coings de leur camp. Durant ce temps Monſieur de Mommorency enuoya Monſieur de Leques, de Chambault, & de Montoyſon pour ſecourir le-

dict Villemur : & au bout de huict iours ils se voulurẽt approcher des ennemis par vn fort, qu'ils firent semblant de vouloir attaquer, mais ce lieu fust secouru de l'armée desdicts ennemis, tellement que sans vouloir rien hazarder, ils s'en retournerent pour attendre de mes amis : entre autres Monsieur de Messillac, que i'auois employé, & le sieur Giscart, & le sieur de la Lande, que i'auois laissé dehors pour assembler les forces du pays. Lors qu'ils ont esté arriuez, ils s'en sont venuz aux ennemis le lundy dixneufiesme de ce mois, & apres les auoir attaquez par le haut de leurs trenchées, & n'y trouuant toute leur caualerie en garde, ils ont esté forcez. Ceſt aduantage perdu, l'armée ennemie se mit en tel effroy, que sans rendre tant de combat, que ie croyois, mesmes des estrangers, ils ont esté deffaicts, & la plus part noyez, mesmes monsieur de Ioyeuse, l'artillerie prinse, ou il y a cinq pieces de canon ou coleuurines, celles de la ville de Montauban y ont esté trouuées qui auoyent esté prinses au regiment de Monsieur d'Espernõ, ou ie me trouuay auec douze cheuaux, & bien à propos pour sauuer vn canon, qu'ils auoyent abandonné, tous les drappeaux desdits ennemis prins, tous les chefs de gens de pied morts ou prins. Bref, Monsieur, c'est vne tres-grande deffaicte, il y a de morts, de douze à quinze cẽs hommes, & enuiron de cent prisonniers. Vous me ferez bien l'honneur, s'il vous plaist, Monsieur, que lors que vous despecherez à sa Majesté, vous luy ferez entendre le debuoir, que i'ay rendu à l'effaict de ce seruice : & me ferez aussi, s'il vous plaist, l'honneur de me commander. De Villemur, le vingtiesme d'Octobre, mil cinq cens nonante deux.

ARREST DE LA COVR DE PARLEment ſeant a Chaalons contre le Reſcrit en forme de Bule, adreſſé au Cardinal de Plaiſance, publié par les rebelles de Paris, au mois d'Octobre dernier.

OVR ce que le Procureur general du Roy a remonſtré à la Cour, que les rebelles & ſeditieux pour executer les meſchans & malheureux deſſeings qu'ils ont de longue main proiettez pour vſurper ceſte Couronne ſur les vrais & legitimes ſucceſſeurs d'icelle, non contens d'auoir remply le Royaume de meurtres, maſſacres, brigandages, & pilleries, & auoir d'abondant introduit l'Eſpagnol treſcruel & treſpernicieux ennemy de la France, voyans que les habitans des villes rebelles cõmencoient comme d'vne longue lethargie & pamoiſon à retourner à ſoy & reprendre le chemin de l'obeiſſance dont Dieu & Nature les obligent enuers leur Roy legitime pour du tout amortir & reboucher les pointes & aiguillons de la charité vers leur Patrie, qui ſe reueilloient en eux & remettre ce Royaume en plus grand trouble & diuiſion que deuant, ſe diſpoſent de proceder à l'eſlection d'vn Roy. Pour à laquelle donner quelque couleur, ils ont fait publier certain eſcrit en forme de Bule portant pouuoir & mandement au Cardinal de Plaiſance d'aſſiſter & authoriſer ladite pretendue eſlection. En quoy leſdits rebelles & ſeditieux deſcouurent apertement ce qu'ils ont iuſques icy tenu cachè, & qu'ils n'ont fait que prendre le pretexte de la religion pour couurir leur malheureuſe & damnable entrepriſe & coniuration. Choſe que tout bon Francois & Catholique doit deteſter & abhorrer comme directement contraire à la parole de Dieu, aux ſaincts decrets, conciles & libertez

bertez de l'Eglise Gallicane, & qui ouure la porte à l'entiere ruine & euersion de toutes polices & societez humaines instituees de Dieu, mesmement de ceste tant renommee & florissante Monarchie, la loy fondamẽtale de laquelle consiste principalement en l'ordre de la succession legitime de nos Rois, pour la conseruation de laquelle tout homme de bien & vray François, doit exposer sa vie plustost que souffrir qu'elle soit alteree & viollee, comme le gond sur lequel tourne toute la certitude & repos de l'Estat requerant y estre pourueu.

LA COVR en entherinant la requeste faicte par le Procureur general du Roy, l'a receu & reçoit, appellant comme d'abus de l'octroy & impetration de ladicte Bule, & pouuoir y cõtenu publication, execution d'icelle, & tout ce qui s'en est ensuiui, l'a tenu & tient pour bien releué, ordonne que Philippes *du titre de* S. Onuphre *Cardinal de* Plaisance, *sera assigné en icelle, pour defendre audit appel, & vaudrõt les exploits faits en ceste ville de* Chaalons, *à cry public, & seront de tel effect & valeur comme si faits estoient à personne ou domicile. Et cependant exhorte ladicte Cour tous Prelats, Euesques, Princes, Seigneurs, Gentilshommes, Officiers & subiets du Roy, de quelque estat, condition & qualité qu'ils soient, de ne se laisser aller ou gagner aux poisons & ensorcellements de tels rebelles & seditieux, ains demourer au deuoir de bons & naturels François, retenir tousiours l'affection & charité qu'ils doiuent à leur Roy & Patrie, sans adherer aux artifices de ceulx qui soubs couleur de religiõ veuillent enuahir l'Estat, & y introduire les barbares espagnols & autres usurpateurs, faict tresexpresses inhibitions & deffences à toutes personnes, de tenir ny auoir chez soy ladite Bule, icelle publier, s'en aider, ou fauoriser lesdits rebelles, ny se transporter aux villes & lieux qui pourroient estre assignez pour ladite pretẽdue election, Sur peine*

aux

aux Nobles d'eſtre degradez de Nobleſſe, & declarez infames & roturiers eux & leur poſterite, & aux Eccleſiaſtiques d'eſtre decheuz du poſſeſſoire de leurs benefices, & punis enſemble tous contreuenans, comme criminels de leze Maieſté, & perturbateurs du repos public, deſerteurs & traiſtres à leur pays, ſans eſperance de pouuoir obtenir à l'aduenir pardon, remiſſion ou abolition, & à toutes Villes de receuoir leſdits rebelles & ſeditieux, pour faire ladicte aſſemblee, les loger, retirer, ou heberger.

Ordonne ladicte Cour que le lieu ou la deliberation aura eſté priſe, enſemble la Ville ou ladicte aſſemblee ſe fera, ſeront raſez de fonds en comble, ſans eſperance d'eſtre redifiez, pour perpetuelle memoire à la poſterité de leur trahiſon, perfidie, & infidelité, enioinct à toutes perſonnes de courir ſus à ſon de toxain, contre ceux qui ſe tranſporteront en ladicte ville, pour aſſiſter à icelle aſſemblee, & ſera commiſſion deliuree audict Procureur general, pour informer contre ceux qui ont eſté autheurs & promotheurs de tels monopoles & coniurations faictes contre l'Eſtat, & qui leur ont aidé ou fauoriſé. Et ſera le preſent arreſt publié a ſon de trompe & cry public par les carefours de ceſt Ville, & enuoyé par tous les ſieges de ce reſſort, pour y eſtre leu, publié, & enregiſtré à la diligence des ſubſtituds du Procureur general, dont ils certifieront la Cour dans vn mois, à peine de ſuſpenſion de leurs eſtats.

Faict en Parlement le XVIII. Nouembre
M.D.XCII. A Chaalons.